

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 3-12 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 is independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected. By this amendment, claims 1, 3-9, 11 and 12 are amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Abstract

Applicant has amended the abstract as shown above.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1, 3-5 and 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0060736 to Wakao et al. ("Wakao") in view of TIFF Revision 6.0, 06/03/1992 ("TIFF"). Claims 6-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wakao in view of TIFF, and further in view of EP 1211587 A1 to Lanthaler ("Lanthaler").

Claim 1 has been amended for further clarification. In particular, amended claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that an image pickup apparatus of the present invention, which includes an image pickup unit for capturing an image to generate image data, is arranged to generate compressed image data in accordance with one of a first image compression method and a second image compression method and generate first inspection data necessary to inspect whether the compressed image data is modified, so that first data and second data are added to the compressed image data to indicate a generation method of the first inspection data and a

location of the compression image data, respectively, wherein the generation method of the first inspection data is varied by a file format of the compression image data.

With the features of the present invention, it can be attained to inspect the compressed image data in accordance with the inspection method adapted to the file format of the compressed image data. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification as originally filed including, e.g., page 11, line 1 through page 14, line 20 along with Figs. 5 and 6.

The Office Action indicates that "Wakao has not expressly disclosed that different image generation devices can use different inspection data generation methods and therefore nor a first data indicating the generation method." The Office Action then cites TIFF6.0 as disclosing the missing element from Wakao, e.g., first data. [page 4 of the Office Action]

However, the basis of the rejection is believed no longer valid over amended claim 1. For example, amended claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, that the first data indicates the generation method of the first inspection data. However, TIFF6.0 fails to teach generation of the first inspection data as recited in amended claim 1. Amended claim 1 recites that an inspection data generating unit generates first inspection data necessary to inspect whether the compressed image data is modified. Amended claim 1 further recites that the inspection data generating unit adds first data and second data to the compressed image data to indicate a generation method of the first inspection data and a location of the compression image data, respectively. Amended claim 1 also recites that the generation method of the first inspection data is varied by a file format of the compression image data.

As Applicant understand it, Lanthaler also fails to teach, *inter alia*, generation of first inspection data necessary to inspect whether compressed image data is modified, so that first

data and second data are added to the compressed image data to indicate a generation method of the first inspection data and a location of the compression image data, respectively, wherein the generation method of the first inspection data is varied by a file format of the compression image data, as clearly recited in the amended independent claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 as amended, and each of claims 3-12 in depending from claim 1 either directly or indirectly, is believed neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references (i.e., Wakao, TIFF and Lanthaler), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 3-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicant has chosen in the interest of expediting prosecution of this patent application to distinguish the cited documents from the pending claims as set forth above. However, these statements should not be regarded in any way as admissions that the cited documents are, in fact, prior art.

Applicant believes that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

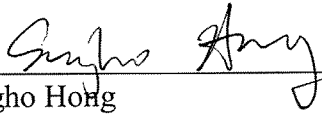
AUTHORIZATION

A petition for a one-month extension of time along with the associated fee is enclosed, extending the date for responding until April 28, 2008 (as April 27, 2008 falls on Sunday). Should an additional extension of time be required to render this paper timely filed, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees necessitated by this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-5162). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED. An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: April 24, 2008

By: _____


Sungho Hong
Registration No. 54,571

Correspondence Address:

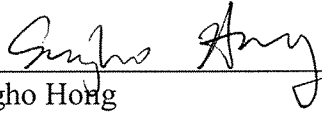
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101
(212) 415-8700 (Telephone)
(212) 415-8701 (Facsimile)

AUTHORIZATION

A petition for a one-month extension of time along with the associated fee is enclosed, extending the date for responding until April 28, 2008 (as April 27, 2008 falls on Sunday). Should an additional extension of time be required to render this paper timely filed, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees necessitated by this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-5162). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED. An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: April 24, 2008

By: 
Sungho Hong
Registration No. 54,571

Correspondence Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101
(212) 415-8700 (Telephone)
(212) 415-8701 (Facsimile)